

549 \Rightarrow 552

Totila tried to establish the city of
Rome as a royal residence

549

The Goths possessed a fleet of their own and ravaged Dalmatia: It was commanded by INDULF, a deserter from Belisarius.

Now Hildiges, the rightful heir to the Lombard Kingdom, had been driven out by YACHO and fought his way through Italy with a large army. But after Hildiges had penetrated into Venetia and destroyed a Roman

Detachment, he returned to the Russian
Donube without ever joining Tobler . .
In the end, he lost his life

Summer 549 → Jan 16, 550

Totala besieged Rome. For the 2nd time the city fell Jan 16, 550 because of the treachery of Isaurian soldiers who had not received their pay. This time, the losses of the vanquished were more serious, and the survivors joined the Gothic Army. Totala now saw himself as the ruler of Rome, where the old senate resumed its activities. A new senate was created, its members drawn from

Goths as well as Romans. For this purpose
Totila brought the surviving senators back
from Campania. Finally another embassy
was sent to Constantinople. This was the 3rd since
Totila's election. The envoys were neither received
by the emperor nor allowed to return home.
Justinian's answer was "total war."

549

Persia

War with the LAZI (people of
ancient COLCHIS) who were
aided by Rome